

On the other hand, the lid 60 removed from the socket 30 is held in the holding section 7 formed in the base body 10 such that the plural claws 61, the stopper projections 62 and the joining piece 63 formed on the back surface of the lid 60 are engaged with the grooves 71, 72 and the hole 75 formed on the bottom of the storing portion 70.

In the embodiment described above, the lid 60 is stored in the storing portion 70 of the base body 10 when the socket 30 need not be covered with the lid, with the result that it is impossible for the lid to be lost. It is also impossible for the operator to fail to remember where the lid 60 is held. It should also be noted that the storing portion is formed in the lower part of the socket 30. Since the storing section 70 is formed near the socket, the lid can be easily mounted to and detached from the socket. Further, the lid 60 received in the storing section 70 is not obstructive because the storing section is formed in the dead space. Still further, the upper surface of the lid is substantially flush with the upper surface of the base body 10, leading to a good appearance of the apparatus.

FIGS. 9 and 10 collectively show a second embodiment of the present invention. The second embodiment differs from the first embodiment described above in that, in the second embodiment, the lid 60 is swingably pivoted to the rear top cover 122 by a pivot 220. The pivot 220, which is one of the joining means, is provided with a twisted spring 222 serving to urge the lid 60 in the counterclockwise direction in the drawing. Where the opening 31 of the socket 30 is covered with the lid 60, the lid 60 is swung upward against the urging force of the twisted spring 222. Under this condition, the socket 30 is pushed forward such that the lid 60 abuts against the opening 31 of the socket and an engaging claw 161 mounted to the lid is engaged with an engaging recess 224 formed on the inner surface of the socket 30.

In the second embodiment shown in FIGS. 9 and 10, the edge portion of the lid 60 is joined by the pivot 220 to the base body 10, and the lid 60 is joined by the pivot 220 to the base body 10, and the lid 60 is urged by the twisted spring 222. As a result, the socket 30 is prevented from being swung in the direction denoted by an arrow A and from being loosened by vibration or the like. It follows that the socket 30 is kept pushed forward and prevented from rising from the pushed position. Where the lid 60 is removed from the opening 31 of the socket 30 to permit the socket to rise, the lid 60 is automatically housed in the storing portion 70 because of the urging force of the twisted spring 222.

FIG. 11 shows a third embodiment of the present invention. The third embodiment differs from the first embodiment in that, in the third embodiment, the lid 60 covering the opening 31 of the socket 30 is not joined to the base body 10.

FIGS. 12 and 13 collectively show a fourth embodiment of the present invention. In this embodiment, the lid 60 is preserved in the frame 41 of the display unit 40. As seen from the drawings, a storing portion 170, which is of a recess shape, is formed in, for example, a side wall of the frame 41 of the display unit 40. The lid 60 detached from the socket 30 is received in the storing portion 170. It should be noted that the depth of the storing portion 170 is determined such that the outer surface of the lid held in the storing portion 170 is substantially flush with the surface of the frame 41 of the display unit 40.

In each of the embodiments described above, the keyboard 15 is formed integrally with the base body 10. However, it is possible for the keyboard to be formed separately from the base body 10. Where the keyboard 15 and the base body 10 are formed separately from each other, the storing portion of the lid 60 may be formed either in the keyboard or in the base body. Of course, the technical idea of the present invention can be applied to an electronic apparatus which does not comprise a keyboard. Further, the storing portion of the lid may be of a pocket structure employed in the embodiments described above. Still further, it is possible to use a screw for detachably engaging the lid with the base body 10 or with the frame 41 of the display unit 40.

Additional advantages and modifications will readily occur to those skilled in the art. Therefore, the invention in its broader aspects is not limited to the specific details, and representative devices, shown and described herein. Accordingly, various modifications may be made without departing from the spirit or scope of the general inventive concept as defined by the appended claims and their equivalents.

I claim:

1. A portable electronic apparatus, comprising:

a casing comprising a base body housing electronic parts and having a rotatable socket portion defining an opening, and a display unit detachably mounted in the opening of the socket portion, said casing including a recess spaced from said socket portion and electrically isolated from the electronic parts;

a display mounted in said display unit;

a plug mounted to the display unit and detachably fitted into the socket portion;

electrical connecting means, mounted in the socket portion, for electrically connecting said display unit to the electronic parts housed in the base body by fitting the plug into the socket portion;

a detachable lid configured to removably cover the opening of the socket portion when the display unit is detached from the base body, said lid being further configured to fit into said recess when the lid is removed from the opening in the socket portion; mechanical connecting means, disposed in the opening of said socket portion and said lid, for detachably connecting said lid to cover the opening of said socket portion; and

joining means, located on the base body, for joining the lid to the base body so as to prevent rotation of the socket relative to the base body, at times when the lid covers the opening of the socket relative to the base body, at times when the lid covers the opening of the socket portion.

2. A portable electronic apparatus, comprising:

a casing comprising a base body housing electronic parts and having a rotatable socket portion defining an opening, and a display unit detachably mounted in the opening of the socket portion, said display unit including a frame having a recess disposed therein and spaced from said socket portion and electrically isolated from the electronic parts;

a display disposed in and being housed by said frame;

a plug mounted to the display unit and detachably fitted into the socket portion;

electrical connecting means, mounted in the socket portion, for electrically connecting said display unit to the electronic parts housed in the base body by fitting the plug into the socket portion;